

# Quiescent Development Of Lithographic Plates

## Abstract of the Disclosure

5           The invention is directed to the development of lithographic printing  
plates and comprises the application of a thin, quiescent film of developer  
solution to each plate in a controlled manner using, for example, a wire-  
wound coating device or an ink-jet type head. A feature of this quiescence  
is that the developer fluid is applied uniformly with self-leveling over the  
10       plate at the required thickness. In the preferred embodiment the fluid is  
gently fed onto the wire-wound device by simple volumetric displacement  
and overflow from the inside of a hollow tube onto the wire, and the flow is  
controlled by sensing the beginning and end of each plate. The developer  
dwells on the plate as it is conveyed across a stable horizontal support  
15       structure for a sufficient time to allow for undisturbed vertical percolation into  
and/or dissolution of the soluble regions of the coating, without being  
subjected to lateral forces that would promote seepage of developer into the  
base of adjacent areas where dissolution is not desired.

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